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25X1A

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30 March 1963

Memorandum For The Record

SUBJECT: OXCART Flight Test Status: 29 March

1. Aircraft #123 (J-75 engines) made flight #58 on 29 March for a duration of one hour and fifty-six minutes. The purpose was to flight test the inertial navigation system, the Eastman Kodak camera and the automatic direction finder (ADF) system. The inertial navigation system could not be aligned prior to take-off because of fluctuations in DC power of the aircraft. Ten camera flight line tests were conducted and the camera appeared to operate satisfactorily. ADF homing was acceptable but the needle was slow to reverse position after station passage. A larger flush antenna will be installed to improve ADF performance.

2. Aircraft #124 (trainer) made flight #49 on 29 March for a duration of one hour and fifty-five minutes. This was a training flight for two Agency operational pilots. Contacts were made with a KC-135 tanker. However, fuel was not passed because of a tanker boom problem. The pilots made two GCA approaches, two touch and go exercises and a landing with good drag chute operation.

3. Aircraft #121 and #122 are grounded until plumbing changes are incorporated into the installed J-58 engines on 1 or 2 April. Aircraft #125 is having a new pressurized <sup>door</sup> installed and #126 is in the process of assembly at [ ]

/s/  
JOHN PARANGOSKY  
Chief, Development Division  
(Special Activities)

- 1 - DD/R
- 2 - AD/OSH
- 3 - C/AD/OSA
- 4 - DD/OSA
- 5 - C/AD/OSA
- 6 - RD/OSA